

U. S. Custom House (Independence Hall)
NE corner Market and 16th. Sts.
Wheeling
Ohio County
West Virginia

HABS No. WVA-53

HABS
W. VA.
35-WHEEL.
2-

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS...

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Addendum to
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE West Virginia	COUNTY Ohio	TOWN OR VICINITY Wheeling
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) U. S. Custom House		HABS NO. WV-53
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Independence Hall		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Northeast corner of Market and 16th Streets		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1855	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) A. B. Young	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Originally built to house a custom house, post office and federal court, the building became well known as the capitol for the government of Virginia loyal to the Union during the Civil War. The constitution for the new state of West Virginia was drawn up there in 1863.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Sandstone		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 3-story; 5-bay front		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) See photocopies of architect's measured drawings.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES In 1870, the roof was steepened and there were minor interior changes, under the direction of Alfred Bult Mullett. An exterior elevator shaft and stairs were added 1889-1890. In 1912-13 a 3-story addition and small Greek-style portico were added. Sometime CONTINUED		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Listed on National Register of Historic Places (Information above taken from nomination)		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Druscilla J. Null, HABS	DATE 7/27/83	

MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES (Continued)

shortly thereafter a fourth story was added. As part of a renovation program, beginning 1969-70, the 3-story addition, the fourth floor, and the portico were removed.